GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4905
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
NAXALITE ATTACK ON RPF IN TRAIN
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the naxalites attacked on Railway Protection Force (RPF) Personnel in Howrah-Gaya Passenger train on April 8, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of the incident; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to strengthen the security in all such trains which are prone to such kind of attacks?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. On 08.04.2007 RPF escort party consisting of one Assistant Sub-Inspector and 4 Constables were detailed for escorting train No.213 Up(Howrah-Mokama Passenger)from Asansol to Jhajha with arms and ammunitions for safety and security of travelling passengers. At about 08.15 hrs. while the train left Ghorparan Railway station, between Ghorparan and Narganjo Railway stations in Asansol − Jhajha section a group of 35 to 40 (both male & female) naxalites attacked RPF Escort Party, snatched arms and ammunition of the escorting party and opened indiscriminate firing on them causing death of 02 Railway Protection Force Constables. One Asstt. Sub-Inspector and 2 Constables sustained bullet injuries who were admitted to Railway hospital atAsansol and Sealdah. There was no casualty or injury to any passenger. In this connection Government Railway Police/ Jhajha registered a case vide crime no. 11/07 dated 08.04.2007 under section 333 & 396 Indian Penal Code, 17 Criminal Law Act and 27 Arms Act against 32/35 unknown persons.

(c): The following actions are being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future:-

(1) The strength of Cash and Train Escorting Party of Railway Protection Force in the said affected section has been increased.

(2) Training to Railway Protection Force personnel in counter-insurgency is being imparted to enable them to handle ambush attacks effectively.

(3) Intelligence is being collected regarding the movement of the subversive groups in the affected sections in close liaison with State and Central Intelligence Agencies for taking appropriate preventive steps in time.

(4) Close co-ordination with Civil Police, Government Railway Police and other Central Intelligence Agencies is being maintained for sharing of intelligence.